

INFORMATION REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL

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Paramilitary Formation**

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1. Stefan Bilek, a Communist employed by the Globus-Verlag printing house in Vienna, is the organization leader of the Ludo-Hartmann Section of the Communist Party in Vienna XVI. Bilek recently told several fellow-workers at Globus that, in early February 1948, he had addressed a meeting of his Section on the subject of founding a defense corps within the Communist Party. In the immediate future it is intended that all male Party members not more than fifty years old be recruited into this formation which, organized along military lines, is to be known as the "Schutzbund". To the objection of one of his hearers that this step appeared premature, Bilek retored angrily that the leaders of the CP certainly knew what they were doing.
2. Another member of the CP in Vienna XVIII confirmed Bilek's story and asserted that in his own Party Section the contemplated founding of the Schutzbund had been discussed in detail.

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